

## Oklahoma State Conference NAACP



**For Immediate Release**

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### **“Calling for the Resignation of Pardon and Parole Board”**

#### **Member, Judge C. Allen McCall**

Oklahoma City – Oklahoma State Conference National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, (NAACP) along with coalition partners from across the state is calling for the immediate resignation of Pardon and Parole Board Member, Judge C. Allen McCall

Judge C. Allen McCall’s recent threatening statements and unspecified accusations of criminal activity towards his own colleague, Pardon and Parole Board Executive Director Steve Bickley, are outrageous and should be alarming for all Oklahomans. We call for his immediate resignation from the Pardon and Parole Board, as he is unfit to continue serving the people in this capacity.

In an internal memo obtained by The Frontier, a lively dispute centers around whether death row inmates have legal right to commutation hearings. Judge McCall made it clear in his communications that he’d rather ignore the law than adhere to it.

More specifically, the inconsistencies in the case of Julius Jones, an Oklahoma City man on death row who has maintained his innocence, continues to create ongoing clashes between criminal justice reformers and long-time judges and prosecutors. It does not go unnoticed that Judge McCall’s attacks comes while Julius Jones currently has a commutation application before the Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Board.

It appears that Judge McCall does not want to grant Julius Jones his right to a commutation hearing; apparently because he has already made up his mind regarding Mr. Jones’ guilt and is disinterested in the troubling issues that haunt his case. Judge McCall appears to see himself, not as a public servant called on to deliver unbiased rulings, but instead as Oklahoma’s Executioner in Chief. This is a disturbing indication that he has an agenda that runs contrary to granting all people, particularly Oklahoma’s death row inmates, the civil rights and due process afforded to them by the law.

As a public servant, Judge McCall reason action is clearly compromised and biased, and can no longer be trusted to work in the best interests of our state. His irrational attacks against, not only

Director Bickley, but also the opinions of other legal professionals, including those in the governor's office, should alarm all Oklahomans. We agree with both Director Bickley and Governor Stitt's legal counsel that it is appropriate and legal for death row inmates to be granted commutation hearings.

Oklahoma State Conference, (NAACP) along with coalition partners from across the state, extend our strong support for Director Steve Bickley and appreciate the outstanding work he has done in administering organizational support for the Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Board. Furthermore, we hope that Director Bickley and the Pardon and Parole Board will work to create a process where each inmate is afforded a hearing of appropriate length to present their case and have it adequately reviewed by the Board.

For these very reasons, I implore you to join your local NAACP and reach-out to your state and local elected officials and be sure to give your thoughts on this issue by casting your vote on and let us make a resounding noise together with our vote!

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